[*English*]

Forest cover in Andhra Pradesh

1847. SHRI GANDHARA SANIPALLI: Will tha Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentaga of forest area in Andhra Pradash in general and Chittoor and Anantapur district in particular;

(b) whathar the forest area in the State has decraased during the past two years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures proposed to be taken to increase the forest cover?

THE MINITER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT OF FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) According to the State of the Forest Report 1989, the forest area in Andhra Pradesh in 23.0% of the total geographical area of the state.

The percentage of forest area in respect of Chittoor and Anantapur is 29.85 and 10.26 of the geographical areas of the districts respectively.

(b) As per the information available in the State of the Forest Report 1987 and 1989, the total extent of forest area in the State has remained unchanged (i.e. 63771 sq. kms.)

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Dravida Universeity in Andhra Pradesh

1848. SHRI MAHASAMUDRAM GNANENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposai from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to set up Dravida University in Chittoor district; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). A proposal for establishment of National University for Dravidian Studies In Andhra Pradesh was made by the Governmant of Andhra Pradesh in April, 1990. The State Government was informed that the University Grants Commission is not generally in favour of establishment of separate universities exclusively on linguistic considerations. The Commission have been of the view that the universities should provide for advanced studies and research in a variety of disciplines rather than those which operate within the confines of linguistic considerations. It would be more appropriate to strengthen Dravidian Studies by setting up departments in Dravidian Languages in existing universities.

Payment of Overtime to Contractual Security personnel in Air India

1849. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVAIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) tha details of total amount of emoluments being paid to the contractual security personnel engaged in the Air India;

(b) when their emoluments were revised last;

(c) whether the Air India pays overtime to these contractual security personnel; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) In the month of October 1991, an amount of Rs. 1,97,392 was paid by Air India

to Security Guard Board, Greater Bombay for providing services of 167 personnel.

(b) The emoluments were last revised from August 1, 1990.

(c) In the month of October, Air India paid an amount of Rs. 17,768 as overtime to the Security personnel.

(d) Does not arise.

Sale of Sura

1850. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI:

(a) whether the Ayurvedic medicine 'sura' is twice s potent as whisky and half as expensive;

(b) if so, whether it is being sold all over Delhi openly;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the persons selling the same without any restrictions; and

(d) the relief, rehabilitation and treatment provided to the victims of spurious 'sura' tragedy in Delhi recently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Some Ayurvedic medicines contain self-generated alcohol. However, their cost in comparison to whisky has not been studied.

(b) Spurious liquor was sold under the label of Ayurvedic medicine.

(c) A case under Section 284/304 IPC has been registered by Delhi Police against manufacturers and vendors of spurious liquor in the name of Ayurvedic medicine. 93 persons have also been arrested in the extensive raids carried out in Delhi. 337 criminal cases have been registered.

(d) An exgratia assistance of Rs. 10,000/- to the next of kin of each deceased and Rs. 5,000/- to each person rendered blind by the consumption of this spurious liquor has been sanctioned by the Delhi Administration.

[*Translation*]

Vayudoot Service between Delhi and Kanpur

1851. SHRI KESRI LAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vayudoot Services between Delhi and Kanpur have been suspended;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to start Vayudoot services from Kanpur to Delhi, Calcutta, Madras and other important cities of the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Vayudoot services between Delhi and Kanpur have been suspended due to shortage of aircraft capacity.

(d) Due to capacity constraints, there is no possibility of restoration of Vayudoot services from Kanpur at present. Kanpur is already connected by Indian Airlines flights.

[*English*]

Cancellation of Trains on Bangalore-Mysore Route

1852. SHIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: